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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO

TOPIC Military Information from Oranienburg

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EVALUATION ser halott

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT. 20 September to 16 October 1951

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 7 November 1951

## REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 sketch on ditto

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REMARKS\_\_\_\_\_

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25X1A [ ] 1. On 20 September 1951, the wooden fence around the premises of the Kayser chemical factory was dismantled and hauled away on vehicles which included trucks [ ] (1) The residents of Jaegerstrasse, a street from Schuetzenstrasse to the former concentration camp, were ordered to vacate their houses before the end of September. (2) Vehicles observed entering the restricted Weiss Stadt settlement on 3 October included a staff car [ ] 25X1 occupied by a major general, and sedans [ ] 25X1 with officers. (3) 25X1

25X1A [ ] 2. About 300 Russian women, wearing uniforms with artillery insignia, arrived in the former concentration camp at Sachsenhausen at the end of September. According to an officer, 600 more Russian women were staying in Lehdenick and would also be stationed in Oranienburg. (4) The premises of the former Auer plant were being cleared at the end of September. An officer said that the plant area would be leveled and subsequently used for billeting an AAA unit. (5) The houses on Jaegerstrasse, Hubertusstrasse, and Wiesbadenerstrasse, around Bismarckplatz were being vacated by German residents. It was said that Soviet naval units, possibly canal construction units, would be stationed in these streets. (2) A document, which was found at the concentration camp, was a plan outlining the program of a holiday eve and a holiday on 14 and 15 July 1951 for the personnel [ ] This plan was signed by Gds Lieutenant Colonel Gurko (fnu), political deputy of the commanding officer of [ ] 25X1 approved by Gds Lieutenant Colonel Vodeyko, commanding officer of [ ] 25X1 dated 14 July 1951; mentioning a 1st through 3d Training Companies and, in connection with the companies, the names of Shevtsov, Tikhomirov, Chepanko, Balabin, Kononov, Kolmykov, Stoltsov, Kopeyko and Artemov; and apart from the training companies, the names of Toplyakov, Borisov, Siroporshnov and Nikitin. (6)

25X1A [ ] 3. Three gondola cars, carrying rocket launchers [ ] were coupled to a freight train, which arrived at the Oranienburg freight yard from the direction of Loewenberg on 3 October. (7) 25X1

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6. The houses on Bernauer Allee, south of the Panzer Schule, were to be prepared to quarter tank troopers by 20 October. The troops to be billeted there allegedly belong to two different units. (11)

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7. On 10 October, the garage of the rocket launcher regiment in the restricted Weisse Stadt area was completely empty. The 4 rocket launchers and 4 trucks, which had been observed there on 9 October, must therefore have left during the night of 9 October. Fifteen trucks of the rocket launcher regiment, [redacted] and

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carrying billeting equipment, baggage and tools, were seen between buildings No 7 and 8 on 10 October. A conference on construction projects held on 10 October was not attended by the commanding officer of the RL Regiment Chesnakov. During the conference, Knochkov (fnu), commanding officer of a 76.2-mm AT artillery regiment, stated that buildings No 7 and 8, vacated by the personnel of the rocket launcher regiment, would be reoccupied by RL of regiment Knochkov after some minor repair work. The garage of the 100-mm AT artillery regiment was again occupied to capacity on 13 October, thus indicating that the troops who left on 9 October had returned. The garage of the rocket launcher regiment sheltered artillery pieces of Regiment Knochkov on 15 October. Only four artillery pieces and some trucks were seen in the garage of the 76.2-mm AT artillery regiment, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Svobozernik (fnu), on 16 October. [redacted] AT Artillery Regiment Knochkov, but could not specify [redacted] which he observed in the accounting files of the regiment. (3)

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8. The units stationed in the former concentration camp had not returned from summer camps by 13 October. Six trucks, [redacted] loaded with billeting equipment, entered the installation on 12 October. Their drivers stated that they came from the summer camp at Kanneburg. (1) The houses on Jaegerstrasse were vacated by their German residents, and the houses on the eastern section of Hubertusstrasse and Schuetzenstrasse had been vacated by 20 October. (2) The evacuation of the Kayser plant by the Soviets was completed on 21 September. The plant premises were still guarded by sentries from the concentration camp. (1) The Klinker plant was unoccupied and unguarded. Its premises were used by driving schools for practice purposes. (12) From 250 to 300 troops with 6 x 76.2-mm AT guns, 4 sedans, 3 field kitchens, 4 radio trucks and 36 trucks [redacted] were seen entering the Weisse Stadt area from the Granienburg railroad station on 30 September. (3)

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9. Prior to 13 October, the castle of Granienburg was occupied by only a guard detail of soldiers who wore red-bordered black epauletts. The former concentration camp was not more than 20 percent occupied by troops who also wore red-bordered black epauletts. The camp was used for training activity. Trucks [ ] were seen hauling coal and potatoes to the installation. (4) On 10 October, the restricted Moisse Stadt area was occupied to capacity by troops, who wore red-bordered black epauletts with artillery insignia. About 600 troops were seen falling in for roll call. Trucks [ ] with an artillery colonel were identified. The Soviets had evacuated the Kayser factory and the fences removed. (1) The Klinker plant was unoccupied. (12) Civilian residences on the streets northeast of the Granienburg railroad station were requisitioned for Soviet Army purposes. It was rumored among local residents that the billets would be occupied by an AAA unit. (2) (13)

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- (1) [ ] reported that the Kayser factory was vacated by the Soviets on 25 September and was to be taken over by the VEB Geratebau on 1 October 1951. This information is confirmed by the present report. The sentries still observed there probably guarded equipment not yet hauled away.
- (2) The streets mentioned in paragraph 1, 2, 8 and 11, adjoin the Panzer Kaserne to the west. It remains to be seen whether they will be included in the billeting area of the Panzer Kaserne or will constitute a restricted area of their own.

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- (3) [ ] the unidentified rocket launcher regiment of the Second Gas Meck Army was away on 9 October 1951, leaving only 4 artillery pieces behind. [ ] are keyed to sketch attached [ ] The present report possibly indicates that the regiment may have been transferred, but fails to give any clues as to the new billeting area. Colonel or Lieutenant Colonel Chesnakov (fnu) is known as the commanding officer or the deputy commander of the regiment.

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- [ ] an AT artillery component of the unidentified AT artillery brigade of the Second Gds Meck Army detrained in Granienburg on 30 September 1951. [ ]

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- a troop train, probably of the same brigade, on 13 October 1951. [ ] The convoy, mentioned in paragraph 3, was apparently unloaded from a train. Lieutenant Colonels Knochkov (fnu) and Svobogernik (fnu), mentioned in paragraph 7, are known as regimental commanders of the brigade from previous reports [ ] as part of the letter-head stamp of Regiment Knochkov and is presumably assigned to this regiment. [ ] was previously observed on the financial record of the unit. [ ]
- (4) The report [ ] in paragraph 8-9 indicates that components of the 25th Tank Div from the concentration camp had not returned from the Templin training area by 13 October 1951. [ ] the units from Granienburg would not depart from Templin before 25 October 1951. [ ] The truck convoy with billeting equipment observed on 12 October 1951, see paragraph 6, [ ] was going south from Templin on the same day.
- (5) Probably the main plant of the Auer company, which is no longer functioning because of war damages and dismantling operations. The former Auer plant is not entered on the available maps. It may be located on the factory premises between the railroad line and the Havel River near the Granienburg railroad station.

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that the unit concerned is the unidentified tank training battalion of the 25th Tank Div, commanded by hitherto unidentified Major Lieutenant Colonel Vodeyko (ina). The battalion is probably organized into 1 headquarters company and 3 training companies. The names mentioned in the document are reported for the first time.

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(7) According to the [REDACTED] the rocket launchers belong to the unidentified rocket launcher regiment of the Second Gds Mech Army.

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(8) The report indicates that the Hq 25th Tank Div, which is carried in the Oranienburg castle, had not returned from the training area by 13 October 1951. For a layout of the castle, see sketch.

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(9) [REDACTED] is probably assigned to an unidentified artillery unit in Oranienburg.

(10) [REDACTED] is believed to belong to the heavy AT artillery regiment of the unidentified AT artillery brigade of the Second Gds Mech Army in Oranienburg.

(11) Probably houses, which were to be taken over into the billeting area of the Panzer Baserne. The preparation of these houses for quartering troops confirms recent indications that the Soviet military authorities of the Soviet Zone of Germany plan to withdraw troops from detached quarters and to quarter them in large billeting areas in order to seclude them more effectively from the German population. [REDACTED]

(12) The Klinker plant was reported [REDACTED] to have been unoccupied at the end of August 1951.

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(13) The vehicles observed at the installations at Oranienburg are assigned to the units carried there, with the exception of truck [REDACTED] mentioned in paragraph 1 of the present report, which belongs to the 6th Gds AAA Div.

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